

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5745

INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16468

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, GW

SUBJECT: GUILLAUME INVESTIGATION

SUMMARY: THE LAST ROUND OF PARLIAMENTARY HEARINGS ON THE GUILLAUME AFFAIR FEATURED AN ATTACK BY HORST EHMKE ON THE BND. BUNDESTAG OPPOSITION LEADER CARSTENS DID LESS WELL RAISING COMPLAINTS ABOUT BAHR'S EASTERN CONTACTS. STRAUSS AND KIESINGER ARE EXPECTED TO TESTIFY AFTER THE BAVARIAN ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY

1. EX-HEAD OF CHANCELLERY HORST EHMKE TURNED HIS TESTIMONY ON OCTOBER 9 INTO A BROADSIDE ATTACK ON THE BND, WHICH HE SAID HE HAD FOUND IN A "DEPLORABLE STATE" WHEN HE TOOK OFFICE IN 1969. EHMKE CLAIMED THAT THE BND UNDER GENERAL GEHLEN HAD ENGAGED IN ILLEGAL SPYING ON WEST GERMAN POLITICIANS; HE DISCOVERED AND HAD DESTROYED DOSSIERS ON 54 INDIVIDUALS INCLUDING SUCH NAMES AS AHLERS, BARZEL, BRANDT, HEINEMANN, ERHARD, VON HASSEL, CONFIDENTIAL

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KIESINGER, LUEBKE, MENDE, OLLENHAUER, STRAUSS, STOLTEN-

BERG, WEHNER AND WISCHENEWSKI. EHMKE ADDED THAT THE BND, IN VIOLATION OF HIS ORDERS, HAD CONTINUED TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE SPD AND TO PASS IT ON TO "OUTSIDE INTERESTED PARTIES". EHMKE'S CHARGES FOLLOWED PUBLICATION IN "STERN" ON OCTOBER 3 OF A STORY EXPOSING PAST BND DEFICIENCIES ALLEGEDLY BASED ON THE 1969 MERCKER REPORT.

2. KARL CARSTENS JUMPED TO GEHLEN'S DEFENSE THE FOLLOWING DAY, PRAISING HIM FOR "AN OUTSTANDING JOB". HE THEN FOCUSED ON HIS FAVORITE SUBJECT, EGON BAHR, CHARGING THAT BAHR HAD FAILED TO OWN UP TO A 1963 CONVERSATION WITH A SOVIET CONTACT IN WEST BERLIN WHEN ASKED ABOUT IT IN 1968 BY THEN-CHANCELLOR KIESINGER. BAHR AND EHMKE COUNTERED WITH STATEMENTS THAT THIS HAD IN FACT BEEN CLARIFIED AND SETTLED IN 1968 TO KIESINGER'S SATISFACTION.

3. THE NEXT MAJOR WITNESS IS EXPECTED TO BE FRANZ-JOSEPH STRAUSS, WHO WILL BE ASKED TO RESPOND TO INSINUATIONS THAT THE CSU WAS "THE OUTSIDE PARTY" TO WHICH THE BND WAS DELIVERING INFORMATION ON THE SPD. KIESINGER WILL ALSO PROBABLY BE INVITED TO COMMENT ON THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST BAHR.

4. ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAS SUCCEEDED FAIRLY WELL RECENTLY IN KEEPING THE FOCUS OFF THE GUILLAUME CASE ITSELF, THE BUNDESTAG COMMITTEE WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO RETURN TO IT. WHO, IF ANYONE, WILL EVENTUALLY BE SADDLED WITH THE BLAME IS STILL NOT CLEAR. NOLLAU STILL SEEMS LIKE A LOGICAL CANDIDATE, BUT HE IS CERTAINLY NOT RUSHING TO VOLUNTEER. NOLLAU IS EXPECTED TO TESTIFY AGAIN, AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE (PERHAPS ENCOURAGED BY HIS PROTECTOR, HERBERT WEHNER) WILL TRY HARD TO PIN THE BLAME ON BRANDT AND/OR GENSCHER.

5. IN THE MEANTIME, PREPARATION OF THE LEGAL CASE AGAINST GUILLAUME CONTINUES, AND THERE IS TALK THAT HE MIGHT BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL BY THE END OF THE YEAR. THE OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL PROSECUTOR HAS DENIED RUMORS

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CARRIED IN THE PRESS THAT THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO CONVICT GUILLAUME OF "TREASON" AS OPPOSED TO THE LESSER CRIME OF "SERVICE FOR A FOREIGN POWER". THERE IS ALSO TALK THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS INTERESTED IN EXCHANGING GUILLAUME, BUT SCHMIDT HAS PUBLICLY DENIED THIS.

HILLENBRAND

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